

City of Springdale

DOYLE H. WEBSTER
Mayor

JOHN J. JONES
City Administrator

KATHY McNEAR
Clerk of Council / Finance Director

December 11, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman
The Honorable Michael O'Rielly, Commissioner
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner

Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

We are writing to voice our support for the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance ("CAPA") and our disapproval of the proposals and tentative conclusions stated in the FCC's September 25 Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in *Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992*, MB Docket 05-311.

The City of Springdale, located in the center of the Cincinnati Dayton Metroplex, is 5.08 square miles and serves a residential population of 11,223. The City maintains a highly developed commercial and industrial community, as well as stable residential neighborhoods. Springdale operates under a non-partisan Council/Mayor form of government. The Mayor is the chief executive and administrative officer of the City and is elected at-large for a four-year term.

The Intercommunity Cable Regulatory Commission (ICRC) of Southwest Ohio produces and facilitates local television programming for each of its twenty four member communities, including Springdale, in the Greater Cincinnati Area. Local PEG programming includes coverage of Springdale City Council meetings; community events (such as the Veterans Day ceremony); high school and college sports games; and high school choir, band, and orchestra concerts.

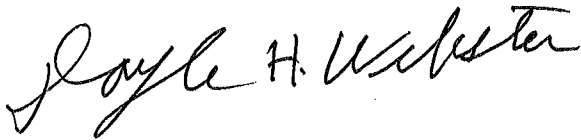
Coverage of the City Council meetings enables viewers to learn how local government works and aims to inspire heightened involvement in community affairs. These airings present Council members to the voting public, which provides voters with some of the information they need to elect candidates who most closely align with their political views and morals. The broadcasting of community events, sporting events, and high school musical performances ties together the community and keeps viewers aware of

the wonderful things occurring in our community. Specifically, this programming furthers financial transparency by showing how taxpayer dollars are spent in our community and in schools.

The intent of the PEG provisions of the 1984 Cable Act was to enhance local voices, serve local community needs and interests, and strengthen local democracy by enabling Springdale residents to watch uniquely local programming about our community and local events of interest to them. The FCC's proposed FNPRM goes against this stated intent and would force communities to choose between franchise fees and PEG channels, which would likely eliminate the PEG channels in the communities that will not be able to afford the loss in fees. The loss of franchise fees would eliminate the main source of operational funding for PEG channels in most communities. This has never been the way the Act worked for decades, nor was it ever the intent of the Act.

PEG Access does not solely benefit a local government or franchising authority- it benefits and strengthens the community as a whole. By allowing cable operators to reduce franchise fee support for local communities opting for local channels, the FNPRM diminishes the ability of PEG organization to serve communities such as ours. We ask that it not be adopted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Doyle H. Webster". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mayor Doyle Webster
City of Springdale, Ohio